

Date: Fri, 19 Mar 93 04:30:20 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #346  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Fri, 19 Mar 93                      Volume 93 : Issue    346

Today's Topics:

    CW timing and rare char. (3 msgs)  
        Definition sought: FAB  
    Kenwood TH78A vs. Alinco DJ580  
        new bug user  
    TS-820 vs. TS-820S: Differences ?  
        Yaesu FT-530 vs. TH-28A

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: Fri, 19 Mar 1993 09:01:11 GMT  
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.columbia.edu!  
cunib.cc.columbia.edu!hyx1@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: CW timing and rare char.  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I ran into some Morse characters that I don't know the meaning of,  
or perhaps they don't have any special meaning.  
I'm sure some of you will know.

Symbol	CW Pattern
;	-.--.
:	---...
! (AS)	.-....
-	-----

Second Q: Is there a formula for calculating the word/character

speed with the duration for a dit.  
(Assume the duration for dit is T, dah is 3T, element space  
is T, character space is 3T, and word space is 7T.)

Thanks for the time.  
Please don't change the subject line. (So that I can keep track.)

-Harry Xu (KB2LHA/AE)            InterNet: hyx1@columbia.edu  
                                 BitNet:    hyx1@cunixf

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Date: Fri, 19 Mar 1993 08:45:22 GMT  
From: usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.columbia.edu!cunxb.cc.columbia.edu!  
hyx1@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: CW timing and rare char.  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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-Harry Xu (KB2LHA/AE)            InterNet: hyx1@columbia.edu  
                                 BitNet:    hyx1@cunixf

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Date: Fri, 19 Mar 1993 10:49:06 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!  
news.cs.columbia.edu!popovich@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: CW timing and rare char.  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Symbol    CW Pattern

```

>;      -.-.-.
>:      ---...
>! (AS)  .-...
>-      -....-

```

They're rare, all right. AS is most commonly used as a procedural signal ("Wait..."), rather than as an exclamation point. And even so, its main practical use seems to be between W1AW code transmissions. Also, in my experience, the single dash is usually a result of somebody fat-fingering their keyer while trying to send BT (double dash, or more commonly "break", used instead of a period in most actual on-the-air CW), rather than an intentionally sent Morse code character. I couldn't tell you when the last time was that I heard any of the other characters. It could be that I've never heard them at all.

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>Second Q: Is there a formula for calculating the word/character
> speed with the duration for a dit.
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> is T, character space is 3T, and word space is 7T.)

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Well, the standard word for speed determinations is "PARIS", so to find the number of words per minute from the dit duration (in the odd unit of minutes, so it will be a small fraction):

```

P = .--. = 1 + 1 + 3 + 1 + 3 + 1 + 1 dits = 11 dits
A = .-   = 1 + 1 + 3                  dits = 5 dits
R = .-.  = 1 + 1 + 3 + 1 + 1          dits = 7 dits
I = ..   = 1 + 1 + 1                  dits = 3 dits
S = ...  = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1          dits = 5 dits
Total                                = 31 dits + 4 character spaces
                                      = 31 + 12 dits = 43 dits

```

Adding a word space to account for there being one between each repetition of the standard word "PARIS", we get 50 dits, or 50T, as the duration of the standard word. Convenient how that works out, huh :-)? Convenient and intentional.

The code speed in words per minute is simply the number of these 50T units you can fit in a minute, so:

Code speed = 1 / (50T)

Converting T to the less unrealistic (but still unrealistic) unit of seconds, we get:

Code speed = 60 / (50T)

That is, if you send a dit in one second, your code speed will be 6/5 WPM. If you send a dit in a tenth of a second, your code speed will be ten times that, or 12 WPM. And so on. The relation works both ways, of course, so for example, 20 WPM corresponds to a dit length of 3/50 second.

-Steve

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Date: Fri, 19 Mar 93 10:23:44 GMT  
From: vnet.IBM.COM@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Definition sought: FAB  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <1993Mar18.164034.292@linus.mitre.org>, m14494@mwvm.mitre.org (Mike White) wrote:

:Doug Girling writes:  
:> ...in the late 1960's there was a British SF puppet show called the  
:> "Thunderbirds". In it, the characters always used the term "F.A.B"...  
:  
:Wow! I haven't thought of that in \*decades\*! SuperMarionation!  
:Fireball XL-5, SuperCar, Gerry & Sylvia Anderson, shlocko  
:special effects... it was great, I \*loved\* those shows when I was  
:a kid. I don't remember off hand what "F.A.B." (spelled out letter  
:by letter, not pronounced as the word "Fab") meant, but in a similar  
:Gerry & Sylvia puppet spectacular, the pilots said "S.I.G.", meaning  
:"Spectrum Is Green", a snazzy version of "Roger". No doubt "F.A.B."  
:meant something equally significant. Cheers...

According to a recent BBC2 TV documentary on SuperMarionation shows, which have recently had a HUGE revival here in the UK, "F.A.B." purposefully stood for... (wait for it)... absolutely nothing. Gerry Anderson chose it partly because it sounded "hip" at the time ("fab" being an in-word of the age), and partly as a practical joke on anyone who was fanatical enough to want to know (not wishing to point out that you fell for it, Mike!!!).

Thunderbirds and Stingray currently have prime youth TV time slots every week BBC. Toy models from the series sold out up to Christmas. A BBC kiddies TV programme, Blue Peter, which showed how to make Tracy Island from loo rolls, paper mache and double-sided sticky tape, issued over 100,000 instructional fact sheets, and then asked a national newspaper to print the guide since there was still a huge demand. French, German, Japanese and Guratti versions of Thunderbirds are used in school language lessons.

Anyway, since this is little to do with aviation or radio, I shall shut up.

Andrew Oakley, IBM Warwick, UK IBM VNet: <9oakley@asicvm1> x(7)664830  
InterNet: <evilandi@vnet.ibm.com> I speak FROM IBM, not FOR IBM!

JANet: <evilandi%vnet.ibm.com@nsfnet-relay> UK 24h Tel. 0926 464830  
24 Daddlebrook Road, Alveley, Near Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 6NU, UK

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Face it folks, the 70's were bloody awful. Flame a flare-wearer today.

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Date: Wed, 17 Mar 1993 20:00:17 GMT  
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!  
hplextra!hpfco!hplvec!scott@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Kenwood TH78A vs. Alinco DJ580  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

OK, we've now had some "they stink" reviews, and some "I love mine" reviews. I'll throw my hat right smack in the middle of the ring. Mine's OK.

I asked for, and got my 580 for Christmas this year before I actually had my license. I chose it based on features that at the time I thought I wanted. Dual band, and extended receive with Aircraft AM receive capability. I'm a pilot, and really wanted the airband stuff in combination with my HT.

My comments as a newly licensed ham? Next time I'll buy a separate airband receiver or scanner for out-of-hamband receive thanks. The problem? EXTREME sensitivity to intermod. I live in a medium size rural community (Greeley, CO for the curious) and at home using just the rubber dummy, several local repeater frequencies are literally wiped out by intermod. Drive to Denver with the thing and I might as well turn it off. Hook it up to the Larsen 2/70 antenna I put in my car? Hah! I guess I expected some problems when hooked to a good antenna, but to have problems with the supplied antenna in a relatively rural area seems a bit much to me.

Is mine more sensitive than most, or is this a problem others are experiencing?

Except for the intermod problems I generally like the radio. Despite other opinions I think most functions on the radio are easy to get to and relatively obvious after just one quick trip through the manual. Watch out for the clear-all function "feature" though. It's just too easy to reset the entire radio. All it takes is holding down the function key (strategically located just above the PTT) while turning the radio on. I've done it, every other owner I know has done it, and you'll probably do it too.

All in all, a mixed review. It's possible my extreme intermod problem is not a general problem but it sure is driving me nuts.

Scott Turner N0VRF scott@hpsla.LVLD.HP.COM  
HP VXI Systems Division

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Date: Fri, 19 Mar 1993 07:56:36 GMT  
From: nevada.edu!jimi!physics.unr.edu!nimbus!mswmod@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: new bug user  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I used to make extra weights out of strips of lead.

One trick in getting the dits set right is to use an analog ohm meter. Adjust it to zero with the contacts closed and when it's making dits, adjust the fixed contact untill the meter shows half scale.

This gives you a good starting point. With use, you will soon learn what it needs by listening to your sending. Of course with all these new wiz bang rigs they have now, you don't really hear the rig.

Wound how many people know just how bad their new multi dollar rigs really sound???

Oh well, best shut up before I show my age!!

Have fun with the bug. They are great. When you can use a bug and make people think you are using a keyer, you'll know your doing it right.

73s \$ cul, Ron, KU7Y Nevada

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Date: Thu, 18 Mar 93 21:18:18 PST  
From: usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!uwm.edu!caen!destroyer!cs.ubc.ca!mala.bc.ca!oneb!ham!emd@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: TS-820 vs. TS-820S: Differences ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

wx4d@cbnewsm.cb.att.com (james.v.morgan..jr) writes:

>

> Can anyone summarize the differences between the Kenwood TS-820 and

> TS-820S ? I have heard that the '820 had no digital frequency display,  
 > but that they were otherwise the same. Is this correct? (I know that  
 > there was an optional kit to add the digital display). If not, what  
 > other differences were there ?  
 >  
 > My rig has "TS-820" on the front panel and rear nameplate, but it does  
 > include a digital frequency display. Is it really a TS-820, or an  
 > early TS-820S ?  
 >

You heard correctly. I have a TS-820S, and the only difference between  
 the 820 and the 820S is that the S has the digital display built in. It  
 mentions this right on the first page of the operating manual.

Robert Smits  
 VE7EMD  
 Ladysmith B.C.  
 e-mail: emd@ham.almanac.bc.ca

There is \*no\* idiotproof filter.  
 Idiots are proof against anything!  
 - Richard Chycoski, VE7CVS

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 Date: Wed, 17 Mar 1993 18:41:33 GMT  
 From: sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpcc05!hp-ptp!johns@network.UCSD.EDU  
 Subject: Yaesu FT-530 vs. TH-28A  
 To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I recently "upgraded" from a 470 to a 530. It was sort of an impulse based on  
 the new mic, more features and an offer from someone to buy my 470 (which fell  
 through :- ( ) So far I don't think I've discovered all the new features..  
 When ever I get a chance I spend some more time scanning the owners manual  
 and pushing buttons. The most outrageous feature I've come accross so far is  
 the battery saver mode the functions under TX! Some of the features that I  
 used to toggle on & off often on the 470 aren't as straight foward, but I'm  
 sure I'll memorize the key sequence. There's always the quick reference guide  
 (something that can frustrate you real QUICK if your in a hurry...) The only  
 thing I really miss is the extended UHF recieve I had on the 470. Hopefully  
 someone will discover how to do it from the key-pad...

73's john

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*****
* John Schubert; Hewlett Packard, ISD | The opinions contained herein *
* Sunnyvale, California | are my own, because nobody *
* INTERNET: jes@hpamsh4.hp.com | else wants them... *
* CompuServe: >INTERNET:jes@hpamsh4.hp.com| *
* Packet: KC6OVN@N0ARY | "Ban low performance drivers, *
* | not high performance cars." *
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Date: 18 Mar 93 16:57:22 GMT  
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!iat.holonet.net!psinntp!psinntp!kepler1!  
andrew@network.UCSD.EDU  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Mar15.142552.26594@bnr.ca>, <1o4468INN6rh@fbi-news.Informatik.Uni-  
Dortmund.DE>, <C40ro4.49C@news.Hawaii.Edu>p  
Subject : Re: What about those FAQing number stations anyway?

In article <C40ro4.49C@news.Hawaii.Edu> jherman@uhunix.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu (Jeff  
Herman) writes:

>Similar to saying "fiver" for the word "five" when reading code  
>groups in English, maybe??

I thought that 'fiver' meant fifteen and was used to avoid confusion with  
fifty, or perhaps the other way around. Similarly for the other teens.

Later,  
Andrew Mullhaupt

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #346  
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